

[18 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Abolition of Hotel Expenditure Tax (HET)

**3629. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether hospitality sector has been urging Government for abolitions of Hotel Expenditure Tax (HET) to boost tourism trade; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the request of the hospitality industry.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Tourism has supported the view of the hospitality sector to abolish Hotel Expenditure Tax to give a boost to tourism, however, the same has not been acceded to by the Government.

Infrastructure Industry Status to Tourism Industry

**3630. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several organisations/ associations have been demanding infrastructure industry status to tourism industry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in announcing the decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Proposals regarding infrastructure status to Tourism industry received from various tourism industry organisations were recommended to the Ministry of Finance.

(b) The decision in this regard is to be taken by the